

Minutes of the Tuesday, March 2, 2010 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, March 2, 2010 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members K. Abbott (arrived 8:25), S. Carroll, P. Collington, F. Esposito, S. Hoag, O. Raadam, D. Stillinger, Township Liaison William O'Connor, and Long Hill Lane residents Shankar Krishnan and Subashree Ragagopal.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2010 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and mentioned on the Chatham Township website at [www.chathamtownship.org](http://www.chathamtownship.org). It has been sent to the Chatham Courier and Daily Record newspapers. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

F. Esposito motioned to approve CTEC and Green Team minutes from February 2, 2010 and S. Carroll 2<sup>nd</sup> with all in favor.

CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2010 AND JANUARY 2011.

Usually every first Tuesday, except no meeting in July, at 7:15 PM at the Chatham Township municipal building. The dates are Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, July no meeting, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, 2010 and Jan 11, 2011.

EVENTS

- Tuesday, March 9, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Health Conference, The Enterprise Center, Burlington County College, 3331 Route 38, Mount Laurel, NJ. \$75. [www.sjrcd.org/soilhealth/](http://www.sjrcd.org/soilhealth/).
- Wednesday, March 10, 7:30 pm, Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Road, Morristown. "A CHEMICAL REACTION", a film & discussion. Anthony Pascale of Natural Turf in Denville will answer your questions and share his expertise on how to grow a lawn that is safe for you, your children and pets.
- Saturday, March 13, ANJEC training workshop for new EC members. 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Dodge Foundation building, 14 Maple Ave., Morristown. Free for CTEC members.
- Saturday, March 20, New Jersey Conservation Foundation Land Conservation Rally, Montclair State University Conference Center. [njconservation.org](http://njconservation.org). \$75 if register before March 5.
- Wednesday, March 24, 10 AM, Ground Water Protection Committee. Willow Hall, 330 Speedwell Ave., Morristown.
- Saturday, April 10, CORE educational training on tree ordinances, required for shade tree commission members. Paramus. \$65. [http://www.njparksandforests.org/forest/community/pdf\\_files/core\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.njparksandforests.org/forest/community/pdf_files/core_brochure.pdf).
- Saturday, April 17, 9:30AM to 12:30 PM. Eighth Annual Riverside Cleanup.
- NJ Environmental Fed. Program April 17 Rutgers
- Seamless meetings, 1st Tuesday of Month, County Wastewater Management Plan
- Tuesday, April 27, 5:30-8:30 PM, New Jersey Environmental Lobby Environmental Awards Reception honoring Sally Dudley and Len Soucy. Faculty Lounge, University Center, Seton Hall University, 400 South Orange Avenue, South Orange, New Jersey 07079. \$40. [www.njenvironment.org](http://www.njenvironment.org).
- Tuesday, June 22, Fourth Passaic River Symposium, Organized by the Passaic River Institute of Montclair State University, Montclair State University Conference Center, 1 Normal Ave., Montclair, NJ, [www.csam.montclair.edu/pri/conferences](http://www.csam.montclair.edu/pri/conferences). \$95.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Green Team on achieving Sustainable Jersey Certification and the Sustainable Jersey Collaboration Award for Chatham Township and Chatham Borough. Congratulations to S. Carroll for all his detailed work, P. Collington for her tireless education and outreach work, and to S. Hoag for the many hours she spent on the expanded recycling program and recycling collection shed, an SJ action item, and J. Matthews for her help with the Green Fair, energy audit and expanded recycling. Primary credit for Chatham Township's share of the Collaboration award should go to K. Abbott and P. Collington, who led both the Green Fair and anti-idling efforts.

GREEN TEAM MEETING (convened 7:30 pm – adjourned 8:35 pm)

- NJ Clean Energy's Community Partnership Program - potential participation. Items to pursue for the next round of Sustainable Jersey certification.

Reviewed Sustainable Community Plan and General Sustainable Jersey recommendations, actions and points. Total Jersey Action points to date 120. Reviewed climate action plan, needs Township Committee support.

S. Carroll, Green Team Chair.

#### REPORTS/DISCUSSION

- Open Space Committee report. Updating Open Space Plan in Master Plan. Sending out letter to residents with large or sensitive open space parcels. S. Hoag

- Planning Board report. No report. L. Caprioglio

- Township Committee. Feb. 11 meeting, passed two ordinances with Chatham Borough regarding recreation interlocal agreements. Bid for Shunpike Field approved. W. O'Connor

- Community Education and Outreach Committee report. Recycling video contest (see Twp website), CTEC presentation at PTO meetings to describe what the Commission accomplishes (April 9<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>), composters and rain barrel program, creating School Sustainability Resource Packet – will be featured on-line.

Green Fair of the Chathams – deciding on participation & location. K. Abbott & P. Collington.

- Recycling Committee report. Active, log created to receive reimbursement fees. S. Hoag

- Website Committee report. E-mail address needed for returning email inquiries. Commission discussed and agreed that permission is needed from people when their picture is featured on website from events. Construction of the CTEC archive database site is in progress. Setup and a monthly posting fee are required. There will be a trial period, if not needed at this time, this site will be discontinued. Checking into a back-up plan. S. Carroll motioned to expend funds necessary for database site and O. Raadam 2<sup>nd</sup> with all in favor. F. Esposito.

#### DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

- Eighth Annual Riverside Cleanup Saturday April 17 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM. Reviewed and assigned tasks.

- 400 foot buffers on either side of power corridor center lines has been mentioned by ANJEC. Discuss by e-mail.

- S. Carroll motioned and P. Collington 2<sup>nd</sup> with all in favor to review, approve & submit comment to the National Park Service on the proposal to route the PSE&G Susquehanna-Roseland electric transmission upgrade through the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, the Middle Delaware River Wild and Scenic River and the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. Comments are accepted at

<http://www.parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?parkID=220&projectID=25147&documentId=31664>.

#### ISSUES

- Artificial turf at Shunpike Field. NJDEP has approved construction. Conservation easement required on lower portions of lot and on almost all of the adjoining lot. Tree buffer will be preserved and extra plantings made, field to be made smaller, non tire crumb rubber will be used. Park lighting needs to be addressed. K. Abbott.

- Possible Ten Towns Committee ROW vegetation management plan. K. Abbott, D. Stillinger.

S. Carroll motioned to pass resolution urging Ten Towns Committee to develop and adopt a regional vegetation management plan for power utility rights-of-way and P. Collington 2<sup>nd</sup> with all in favor. Bernards Township Environmental Commission has passed a similar resolution. Commission members urged to attend next Twp Committee meeting (3/11/10) to request this resolution be approved.

#### APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

- NEW. 614 Spring Valley Road at the corner of Loantaka Lane North. 1-25-10. Block 140, Lot 4.03. Application to NJDEP for an LOI and for an after-the-fact General Permit Number 7 for disturbance to wetland swales for the maintenance of a lawn because of a DEP Notice of Violation issued 9-30-09 for disturbance of wetland swales within a maintained lawn. Review letter to NJDEP. S. Carroll motioned to send letter, P. Collington 2<sup>nd</sup> with all in favor. D. Stillinger.

- NEW/CLOSED. 150 Spring Valley Road 2-12-10. Block 139, Lot 10. Application to NJDEP for GP#25 to repair a septic system within a wetland buffer. No action by CTEC required.

- NEW/CLOSED. Metro PCS. 405 Southern Boulevard. 2-2-10. Block 48.16, Lot 117.27. Application to NJDEP for LOI for expansion of structures to add equipment to existing cell tower on DPW property. The area was previously investigated by CTEC for a similar application by another carrier, no comment made at that time. No comment needed at this time.

#### RECENT LETTERS SENT

- February 2010. Letter to DEP mentioning Water Ambassador Adam Osborn's excellent assistance at the EC's Feb. 11 water symposium. Thank you letters sent to volunteers who helped with the Feb. 11 CTEC water symposium. Letter to NJDEP regarding 20 Evergreen Road application for wetlands permit for placement of pavement. Letters to DEP officials Reilly, Bello, Cattuna regarding PSE&G notice of application for wetlands permits for vegetation maintenance under power lines.
- January 2010. Letter to NJDEP regarding JCP&L application for wetlands permits for vegetation maintenance in wetlands along ROWs.
- December 2009. Letter to NJDEP requesting a public hearing on JCP&L's application for permits to disturb wetlands.
- November 2009. New conservation easement property owner letter sent to 42 Mountain Ave.

#### MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- Various flyers, notices, and newsletters.

#### ADJOURN

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:15 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli  
Minutes Secretary